

SECRET

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

17 September 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable William H. Sullivan
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State
for East Asian and Pacific Affairs

SUBJECT : Alleged NLF Overture in Tunis

25X1 1. Attached is a note based on a 14 September cable from [redacted] As you will see, it deals with an overture made on 24 August to Mr. Frank Wisner, Jr., now an Economic Officer at our [redacted] has asked that this information be "made available to an appropriate level in the State Department for coordination or any joint action deemed advisable." I am therefore sending it to you and, at this moment, to no one else.

25X1

2. Our initial reaction to this whole pitch is one of extreme skepticism. As you will note the individuals involved are not particularly savory and they are generally part of the pre-Diem era. The followers of Le Van Hoach (who, as you know, is now senile) and other politicians of that period keep hoping the clock will turn back and their turn will come again. We doubt that this will ever happen. As for the NLF angle, if it has any substance at all it probably reflects nothing but one more attempt to see if the NLF/PRG can generate private negotiations directly between its representatives and the United States.

3. In order to ensure that no stone is left unturned, we will run some further checks on the attached material. After you have looked this material over, we can discuss what further actions -- if any -- are indicated.

IS/

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

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John C. Caron

O/DCI/SAVA:GACarver, Jr. /mee 17Sept71

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*✓ - Davis Negots
✓ - Sac Chono
✓ - State Liaison*